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Reports: Governments on the situation in their countries and on the progress made in the standardization of geographical names

Report of Poland, 2023–2025

Summary**

The report provides information on progress on geographical names issues achieved by Poland since the 2023 session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.

The report contains a discussion of the types of standardized names in Poland, the legislation governing the standardization of geographical names, and the commissions responsible for such standardization. Those include the Commission on Names of Localities and Physiographic Objects, affiliated with the Ministry of the Interior and Administration, and the Commission on Standardization of Geographical Names outside the Republic of Poland, affiliated with the Surveyor General of Poland. The former establishes names used within the country's boundaries, while the latter is responsible for, among other tasks, standardizing Polish geographical names of the world and representing Poland in the Group of Experts. The report also provides information on changes in the official names of localities and physiographic objects introduced over the past two years, including changes in minority names.

In addition, the report provides information on new toponymic guidelines. The fifth revised edition of the *Toponymic Guidelines of Poland for Map Editors and Other Users* was published in December 2024, 14 years after the previous edition. The updated version reflects changes in the principles and legal framework for the standardization of geographical names in Poland. The new version also contains updates to the source materials available (in particular maps and databases provided by the Geodetic and Cartographic Service), data on national and ethnic minorities, and administrative divisions of Poland. For more information, see GEGN.2/2025/30.

^{**} The full report was prepared by Maciej Zych (Poland), Commission on Standardization of Geographical Names outside the Republic of Poland. The report will be available at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/4th_session_2025/, in the language of submission only, as document GEGN.2/2025/29/CRP.29.





^{*} GEGN.2/2025/1.

Regarding exonyms, recent changes are discussed, and the publication of a new list containing exonyms is highlighted. The publication, Official List of Polish Geographical Names of the World: Supplement – List of Names of Buildings and Other Urban Objects, was released in December 2024. It includes Polish names for 1,691 objects located in 133 countries and territories.

The National Register of Geographical Names is presented in the report, as well as the scope of data available as open data. Furthermore, the arrangements regarding the romanization rules adopted in Poland are discussed.

The seventh updated edition of the *Official List of Names of Countries and Non-Self-Governing Territories*, published at the end of 2023, is also highlighted. The names of the countries, territories and their capitals included in the list have been approved by the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The final section of the report provides information regarding cooperation with neighbouring countries and international organizations.

2/2 25-02104